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The ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

July-August, 1991



*Members' Meetings
Especially for Young People*



Charlotte Florio, CAS '91

For the summer months the Academy is going to be offering something a little different for Members' Meetings. Intended particularly for young people ages 7 and up, these members meetings in Morrison Auditorium are designed to instill wonder and curiosity about the natural world. Of course, parents and other

adults are welcome too! But if you're expecting the usual scientific slide lecture, get ready for something different. Jerry Kay, Media Specialist for the Academy, will be hosting these special meetings and will lead a relaxed question-and-answer program with two fascinating Academy scientists.

"What YOU Want to Know About...DINOSAURS!"

Wednesday, July 10, 2 pm & 7:30 pm

Thursday, July 11, 7:30 pm

What's the biggest dinosaur that ever lived? What's the smallest? What did dinosaurs eat? Why did they disappear? How are birds related to dinosaurs?

Host Jerry Kay talks to Academy scientist, Dr. Jacques Gauthier, about interesting facts about dinosaurs. Dr. Gauthier, Associate Curator of Herpetology, will spend most of his time answering your questions. If there's something

you've always wanted to know about Apatosaurus or Tyrannosaurus rex, here's the perfect opportunity to find out.

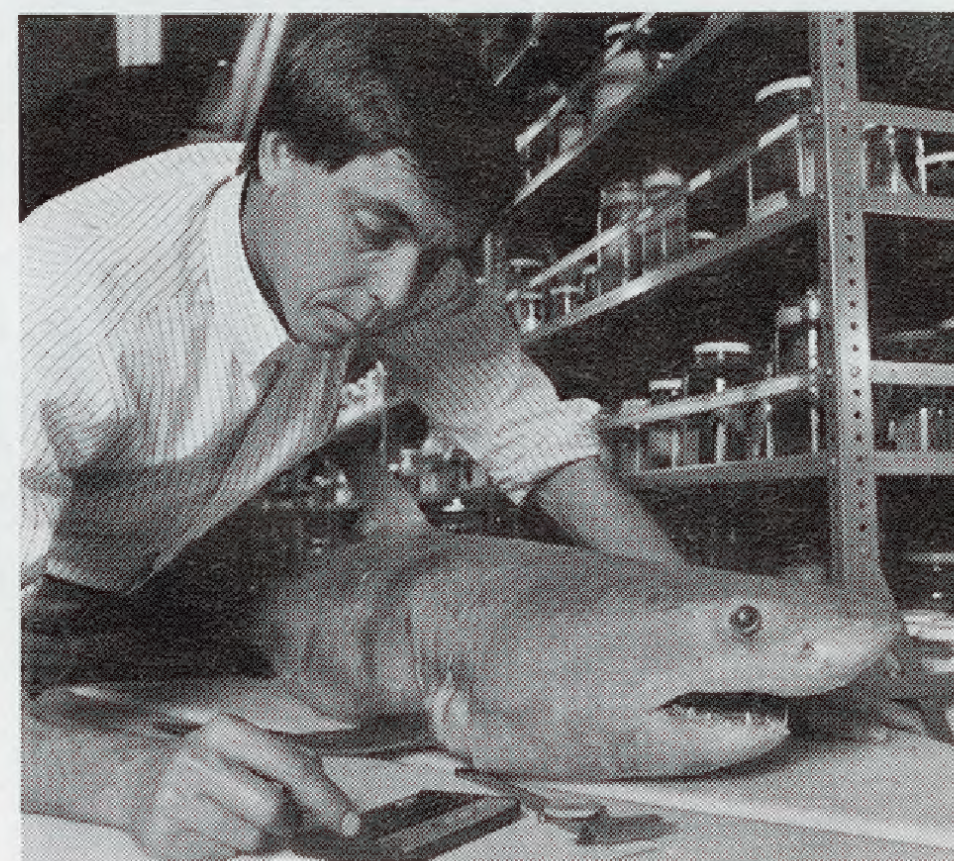
If you want to arrive early, DinoFest '91, the Steinhart Aquarium, Life Through Time and the Academy Store will be open on July 10 & 11 from 7:00-7:30 pm. The Academy Store will also be open a half hour after the meetings.

"What You Want to Know About..."

SHARKS!"

*Wednesday, August 28,
2 pm & 7:30 pm*

Thursday, August 29, 7:30 pm



How many different kinds of sharks are there? Are all sharks dangerous? What eats sharks?

Dr. John McCosker, Director of Steinhart Aquarium and one of the world's leading experts on the Great White Shark, will tell you about sharks in the Bay Area and around the world. Host Jerry Kay will lead a question and answer session with Dr. McCosker, where you can find out the real truth about sharks.

Like the July Members' Meetings on dinosaurs, this close encounter with an Academy scientist is intended for the whole family, especially young people ages 7 and up. Please note the special dates: August meetings take place during the last Wednesday and Thursday of the month.

The Academy will open DinoFest '91, Steinhart Aquarium, Life Through Time and the Academy Store on the evenings of August 28 and 29 from 7:00-7:30 pm. The Academy Store will also be open a half hour after the meetings.

Members' Meetings on September 10 and 11 will feature Richard Ellis on "Whales and Man." The usual slide/lecture format will resume in September.



Traditional Arts



Chuck Painter, Stanford Univ.

Swiss women play the alphorns

The wealth and diversity of human cultures is celebrated at the Academy each month with the Traditional Arts Program. These programs are held at 1 pm on Saturdays in either Morrison Auditorium or Wattis Hall. The programs are free after general admission and are sponsored by the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Foundation. For more information, call 750-7142.

The month of July will be dedicated to the celebration of the 700th anniversary of Switzerland. This Alpine region of Europe comprises 26 cantons (states) divided into four language groups: French, Italian, German and Romansh. In the Bay Area there are almost 6,000 people of Swiss ancestry who have organized celebratory exhibitions, concerts, festivals and other cultural activities. The Academy honors the local Swiss community with an exhibit of Swiss dolls in regional costumes in Wattis Gallery. Switzerland has a rich legacy of traditional costumes, with different styles for each city and canton, and the making of costumed dolls has become a recognized Swiss folk art.

Swiss folk arts will be presented every Saturday at 1 pm throughout the month.

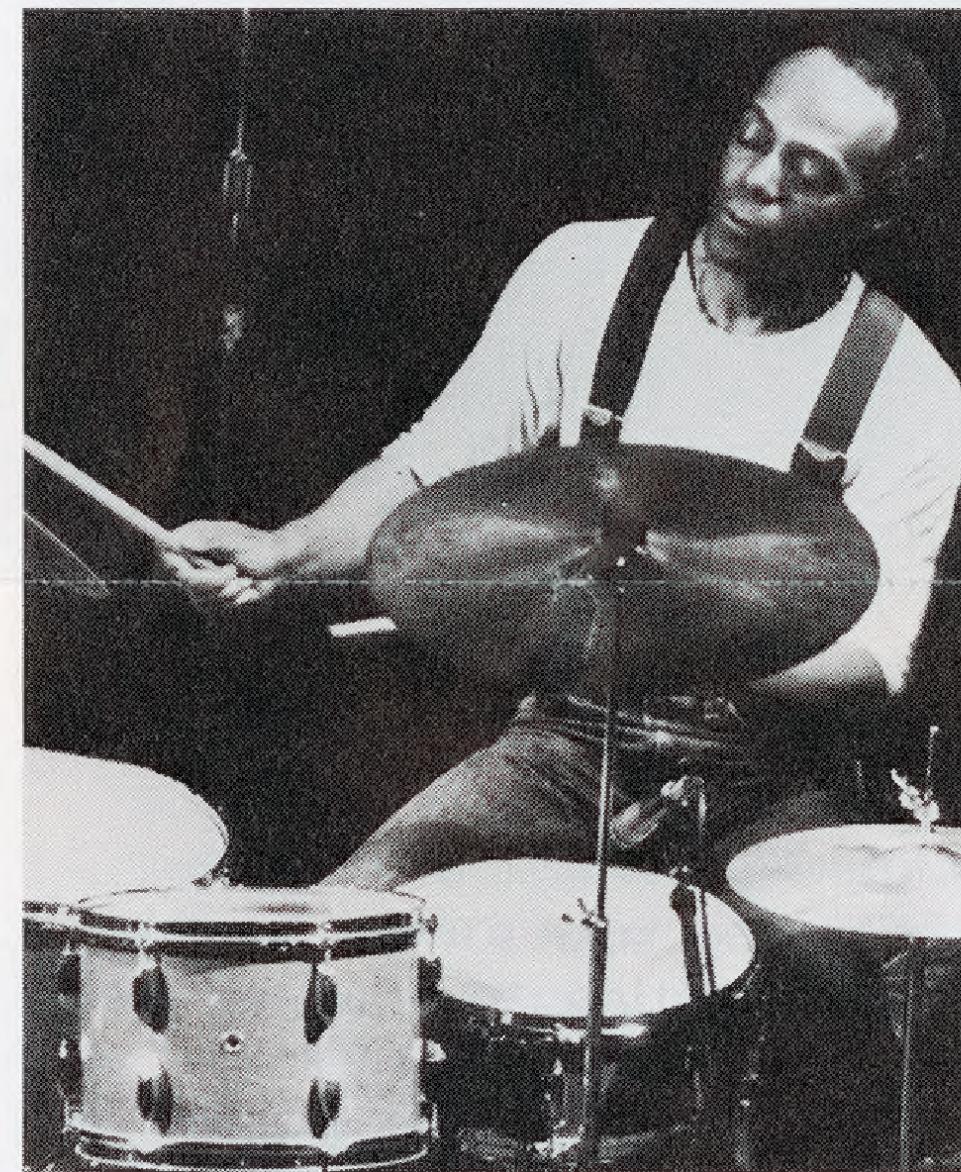
July 6 — The Swiss Singing Society of San Francisco performs a medley of songs in the four national languages. Yodelers Gritly Meyer and Rose Baumer will accompany them.

July 13 — Various Swiss crafts will be demonstrated including: wood chip carving (*kerbschnitzen*) by Lori Billeter, decorative painting on wood (*bauermalerei*) by Anne-Marie Kunz, and bobbin lace by Edith Murith.

July 20 — Pam and Pat Tansey will conduct a workshop showing visitors how to play the twelve-foot alphorn.

July 27 — The Schweizer Judendorchesters (Swiss Youth Orchestra), currently on tour of the United States, performs instrumental music.

August Traditional Arts Programs



Eddie Marshall at the drums

August Traditional Arts programs are coordinated with City Celebration's summer performance series in Golden Gate Park. After attending the Academy's Traditional Arts presentation at 1 pm, visitors can move outside into the Concourse adjacent to the museum and attend the related performance.

August 3 — No program.

August 10 — Benny Duarte leads a demonstration/workshop on Brazilian dance. Benny will teach us a few simple samba steps. This is followed by community groups performing Afro-Haitian, Brazilian, ballroom and jazz dance styles on the Concourse stage.

August 17 — No program.

August 24 — Edwin Marshall demonstrates the techniques of jazz percussion using a set of trap drums. This is followed by performances on the Concourse stage by local jazz orchestras.

August 31 — Liu Wei Shan's Children's Ensemble perform on the *gu-zheng*, a Chinese zither-like instrument, followed by Children's Day on the Concourse stage, including storytelling by Justin and Jason Reed, and performances of Irish dancing and Spanish flamenco by children's groups.

Artist in Residence West African Woodcarving July 16-21, 10 am-4:30 pm



Claude Lockhart Clark demonstrates woodcarving

For one week, in Wattis Hall of Human Cultures, Claude Lockhart Clark will demonstrate some of the traditional woodcarving techniques of West Africa. He'll also be displaying some of his work which include masks, human figures, ceremonial stools with totemic animals, and delicately carved walking canes. His art incorporates powerful images that most strongly resemble those of the Yoruba people of Nigeria. Claude uses hard to medium woods such as live oak, cherry, myrtle and poplar, and a variety of chisels, mattocks, adzes, knives and mallets. The artist is adept at making his own tools. He imports steel blades from West Africa and carves his own wooden handles — miniature works of art in themselves.

"Sliding Toward Extinction"

The Vanishing Wildlife of California



Susan Middleton, 1988

Great Grey Owl

The traveling exhibit, "Sliding Toward Extinction," which had its debut at the Academy in the Spring of 1989, features provocative photographic images of endangered wildlife by Susan Middleton and David Liittschwager. This exhibit, produced by the California Nature Conservancy in conjunction with the Academy, is now at the Museum of Natural History in Pacific Grove.

Ms. Middleton will be giving a free lecture at the Museum in Pacific Grove on Sunday, July 21 at 2:30 pm. She will discuss the planning and production of the photos as well as the unique experiences she had in capturing some of these images. A book of these photographs will be published in the fall.

These talented photographers are beginning a new project in affiliation with the Academy to document 100 North American species of flora and fauna which are listed on the federal endangered species list. This project will inform people of the imperiled fate of many of this country's threatened plants and animals.

Adult Education

The Adult Education summer schedule has a few classes with openings. Call 750-7098 for information about these and other classes.

A Day with Arthropods

August 18, 10 am-4 pm

Cost: \$25 members/\$35 non-members

Become acquainted with the world of scorpions, spiders, horseshoe crabs, millipedes and ancient trilobites. With microscopes, we'll discuss their life histories, comparative anatomy, feeding strategies and evolution.

Cattail Containers

August 11, 10 am-4 pm

Cost: \$35 members/\$45 non-members (\$10 materials fee additional)

Cattails are a fantastic and attractive weaving material which are readily available and tremendously versatile. We'll discuss how to collect and cure the leaves, how to spin the fiber, and how to cook parts of the plant. Each student will begin a small, twined basket.

California's Xeriscape

Lectures: August 14-September 4 (4 Wednesdays, 7-9 pm)

Field Trips: August 17 & 24

Cost: \$60 members/\$70 non-members

The majority of California's foothills, valleys and deserts exhibit varying degrees of xeriscape: a landscape dominated by drought-adapted plants. This course will focus on ways in which our familiar natural landscapes have evolved and adapted to water-poor environments. Our field trips will take us to Point Reyes and Mt. Tamalpais.

Mount St. Helena

July 19-21 (Friday evening-Sunday)

Cost: \$125 members/\$150 non-members

This walking weekend will feature a natural and cultural history hike to the top of Mount St. Helena, the highest point in Sonoma County. This is a strenuous all-day hike with over 1500-foot elevation gain.

Free First Wednesdays

July 3, 5-9 pm

August 7, 5-9 pm



Camaraderie Barbershop Quartet

Celebrate this country's American Heritage with an evening of family fun at the Free First Wednesday evening on July 3. From 5 to 8 pm you can enjoy a light supper in the Yankee Doodle Cafe while listening to the harmonies of the Camaraderie Barbershop Quartet. At 5 pm there's a Concert Under the Stars and at 7 pm Bruce Toloski of the Herpetology Department will be discussing rattlesnakes at the Science in Action booth. There are art activities for the whole family, and the Discovery Room and Biodiversity Resource Center will both be open.

Free First Wednesday on August 7th celebrates the height of summer with light suppers at the Summertime Cafe and the unique music of the Kapalakiki Hawaiian Band from 6 to 9 pm. Stroll over to the Science in Action Booth at 7 pm where an Academy scientist will talk about the wonders of tidepools. Check our own Tidepool Touchtank or catch The Concert Under the Stars at 5 pm.

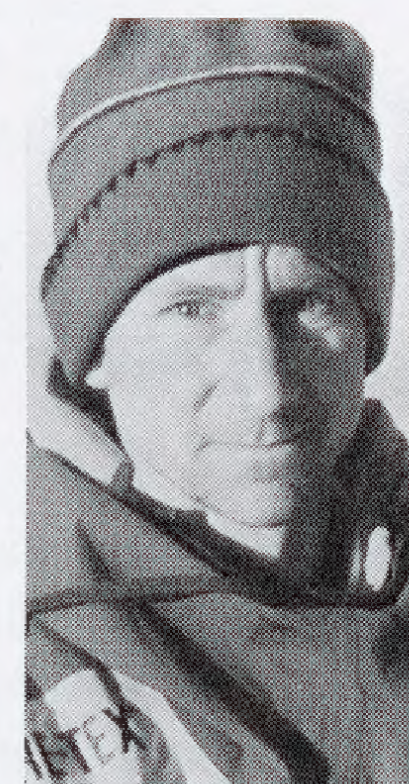
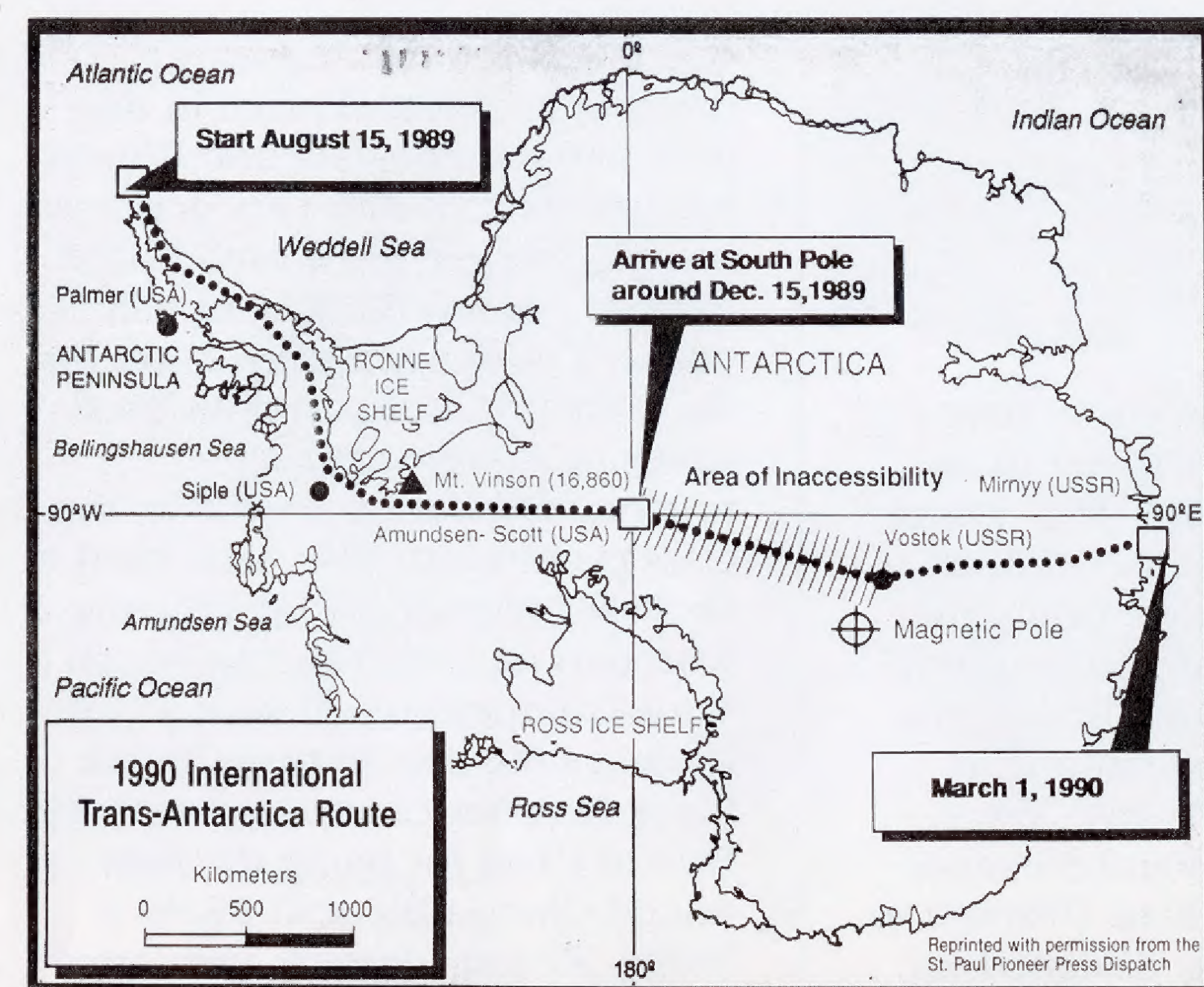
These special Free First Wednesday programs are funded through a generous grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation.



Kalakiki Hawaiian Band

Lecture Trans-Antarctica Expedition

July 16, 7:30 pm



Geoff Somers,
Chief Navigator
of Trans-
Antarctica
Expedition.

On March 3, 1990 the International Trans-Antarctica Expedition completed the first dogsled traverse of Antarctica, travelling the west-east axis. Logging nearly 3,800 miles in the harshest conditions on earth, the six men and 40 polar huskies travelled for seven months from the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula to the South Pole, across the Area of Inaccessibility to the coast of East Antarctica.

Geoff Somers, Chief Navigator and the British member of this historic team, will be at the

Academy on July 16 in the Morrison Auditorium to relate some of the amazing stories of this ultimate adventure. The timely crossing of this frozen land was a catalyst for initiating global action to preserve Antarctica. The six-man team represented six different nations, and succeeded in bringing worldwide attention to this fragile, frozen continent.

Tickets for this exciting lecture are \$5 for members/\$7 for non-members and can be ordered with the coupon below.

Ticket Order Form

____ July 16 "Antarctica," 7:30 pm

____ July 18 "Hummingbirds," 7:30 pm

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Daytime phone _____

Lecture only:

____ \$5 member tickets

____ \$7 non-member tickets

Please send your check payable to the California Academy of Sciences' and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:
The Special Programs Office
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118

★★ Tickets will not be processed without separate checks for each lecture. ★★

Lecture "Jewels of the Jungle"

July 18, 7:30 pm



The Bee Hummingbird of Cuba.

Featuring more than 100 stunning high-speed color slides of the resplendent hummingbirds of the New World, this lecture by Esther and Robert Tyrrell highlights the unique characteristics of these "jewels of the jungle."

The Tyrrell's have studied these tiny birds for the past sixteen years and co-authored the book *Hummingbirds: Their Life and Behavior* and the recent *Hummingbirds of the Caribbean*. Their slide presentation provides a visual field guide to these diminutive creatures, and they will discuss such interesting topics as the birds' anatomy, behavior and wild-flower pollination.

Tickets for this lecture are \$5 for members/\$7 for non-members. Please use the adjacent coupon to order your tickets.

Academy Travel 1992 Schedule of Trips



Joanie Williams

Huli Wigman in Papua New Guinea

Make 1992 your year to travel with the Academy to some of the world's most remote and beautiful places. You'll be in good company — like-minded Academy members and a staff scientist will insure that your trip is an exciting and meaningful experience. You'll receive an information package and get to meet your fellow travelers at a pre-trip orientation. Take advantage of the Academy's knowledge of our fragile world—first-hand.

Costa Rica Natural History
1/25–2/10 with Dr. Frank Almeda.

Baja: Cruising the Sea of Cortez
3/29–4/5 with Dr. James Kelley.

Madagascar Discovery
4/13–5/1 with Dr. Terry Gosliner.

Australia
5/15–6/1 with Dr. Jacques Gauthier.

Highlands and Islands of Scotland
6/5–6/20 with Dr. Robert Drewes.

Tropical Fiji
6/20–7/2 (leader to be announced).

Voyage to the North Cape
7/9–7/25 with Dr. James Kelley.

Alaska Overland
7/20–8/3 with Dr. David Kavanaugh.

Namibia and Botswana Safari
8/8–8/29 with Dr. Robert Drewes.

Cruise Japan and China
9/26–10/12.

Papua New Guinea & the Trobriand Islands
10/20–11/8.

Polar Bear Photographic Safari
10/22–10/31.

Guatemala and Honduras
10/31–11/15.

Explore Chile and Argentina
12/3–12/18.

(Leaders for Fall trips will be announced at a later date.)

NEW — Adventure Travel Series

In addition to our regular trips, we are now offering an adventure travel series which feature slightly more "rugged" travel.

Baja Camping
2/1–2/8 with Dr. Michael Russell.

Dominica Natural History
3/3–3/12 with Dr. Pepper Trail.

Salmon River Rafting
7/6–7/12 with Greg de Nevers.

Kayak Alaska
8/5–8/13 with Dr. David Kavanaugh.

Hawaii Camping
8/15–8/22 with Dr. Terry Gosliner.

Anthropology & Geology of the Southwest
8/29–9/5 with Dr. Jean DeMouthe.

Call 750-7222 for more details.

Research at the Academy

The Research Division has been very busy and many of the scientists are out in the field.

Dr. Terry Gosliner, Director of Research, just returned from Grand Cayman Island where he discovered several new species of nudibranchs.

Dr. Tom Daniel, Botany Associate Curator, traveled to Mexico where he found a possible new species of acanthaceae and the flowering of another species he had named previously. His group had to flee an attack of killer bees and also surveyed the lively aftermath of a volcanic eruption.

Roberta Brett, Entomology Curatorial Assistant, attended a week-long workshop in Hawaii studying the larvae of beetles (Coleoptera). An international team of experts assisted in the course.

Dr. Pat Kociolek, Chairman of Invertebrate Zoology and Geology, is doing research on diatoms at the University of Michigan Field Station.

Mona Bourell, Botany Curatorial Assistant, is also doing research at the Field Station in Michigan, studying Chiapas mosses.

Dr. Paul Arnaud, Curator of Entomology, is in Europe, utilizing the collections of several museums.

Dr. David Kavanaugh, Chairman of Entomology, recently traveled to Hawaii where he discovered several new species of carabid beetles. Although typically a predaceous ground beetle, most of them in Hawaii are arboreal.

Extended Hours

Starting July 4th the Academy will be open every day until 7 pm. Our extended summer hours will be in effect until Labor Day. Come enjoy the Academy in the cool of the evening.

Lecture
**Galen Rowell —
“My Tibet”**
September 5, 7:30 pm



Galen Rowell, Mountain Light

Photographer extraordinaire Galen Rowell profiles the Academy exhibit, *My Tibet*, featuring Galen's spectacular images coupled with text by His Holiness the Fourteenth Dalai Lama of Tibet. In this slide-illustrated lecture, Rowell describes his many adventures in Tibet and his unique experiences working with the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan people.

Galen has travelled extensively throughout Tibet's rugged landscape, chronicling the vast and varied beauty of this magnificent land.

Through his work we discover the diversity of Tibet and learn the importance of preserving the enduring meaning of Tibet's culture, religion and natural heritage.

Galen's book of the same title will be available for purchase in the Academy Store for \$35. There will be a booksigning following the lecture. Tickets are \$5 for members/\$7 for non-members. To order tickets use the convenient form below.

Lecture
**“Across the
Himalaya and
Beyond”**
September 26, 7:30 pm

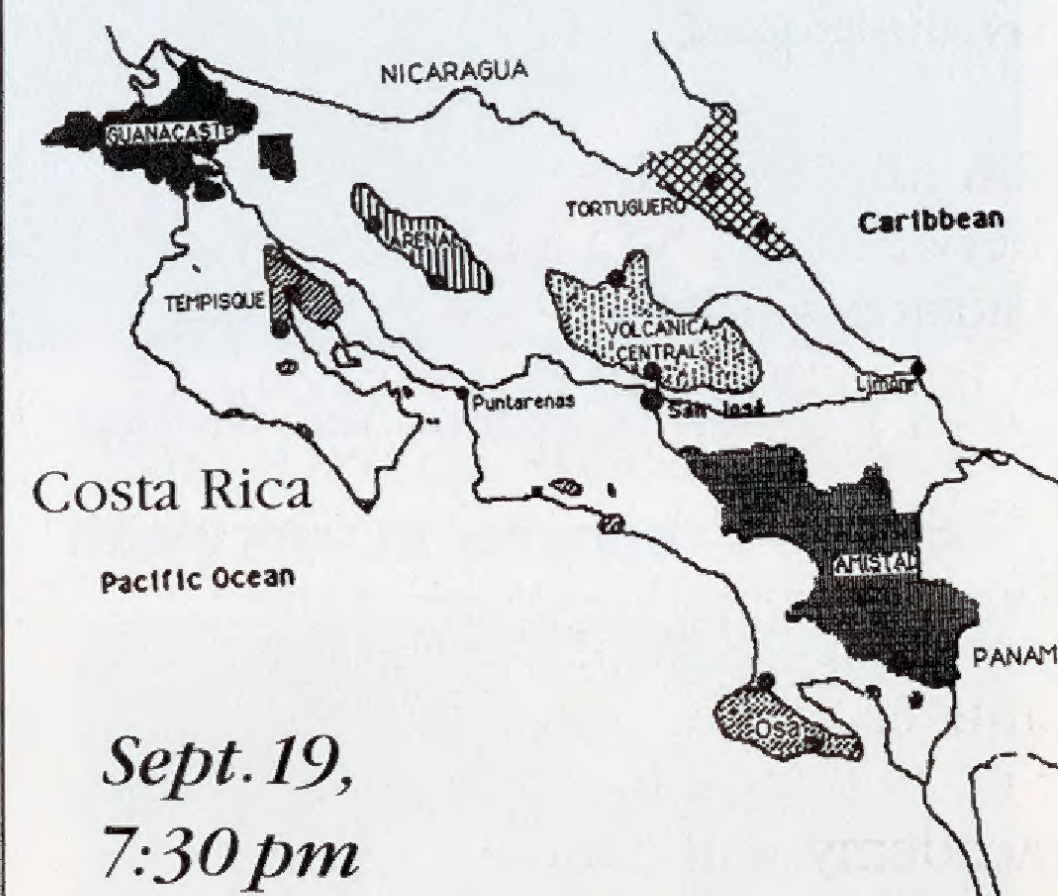


Arlene Blum, author of *Annapurna, A Woman's Place* and *Women in High Places*, was the first woman to make the Great Himalayan Traverse, a 2000-mile, nine-month-long trek across the Himalayan regions of Bhutan, Nepal and India.

Several years later, she took her five-month-old daughter on a traverse across the Alps. “Carrying Annalise and all her baby gear, nursing and diapering our way across the Alps was as much work as climbing Mt. Everest,” Arlene reports. “But it was lots more fun!”

She will recount and contrast these two remarkable exploits in her talk in Morrison Auditorium on September 26th. Tickets are \$5 for members/\$7 for non-members. Please use the coupon below to order your tickets.

Lecture
**The Academy and the
San Francisco
Zoological Society
present:
“Managing
Tropical
Biodiversity for
Fun, Survival
and Profit”**



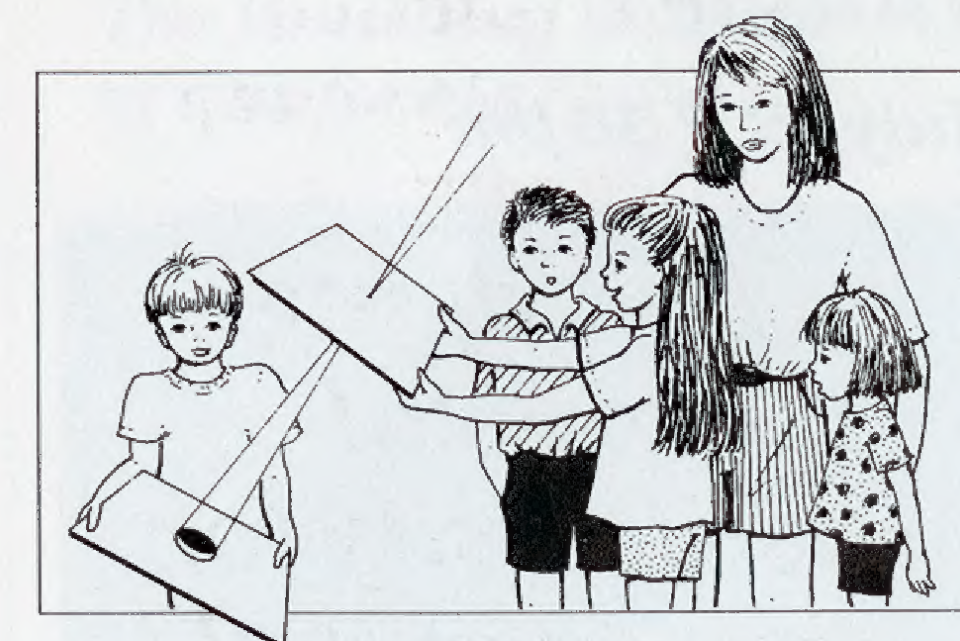
Sept. 19,
7:30 pm

Dr. Daniel Janzen, Professor of Biology at the University of Pennsylvania, spearheaded the effort to create the largest national park in Costa Rica, Guanacaste National Park, which protects some of the most endangered rainforest type in Central America. He also helped establish INBio, the Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad de Costa Rica, which seeks to inventory and catalog Costa Rica's enormous biological wealth so that it can be saved, understood and utilized.

Costa Rica has rebuilt its conserved wildlands into a national system of eight Conservation Areas which encompass 25% of the country. These Conservation Areas are designed to be self-managing units — endowed and income-generating. This comprehensive approach to conservation has great capacity for success. “The biodiversity that is woven into a society's hearts, minds and wallets is the biodiversity that will survive.”

Tickets are \$5 for members/\$7 for non-members. Please use the adjacent coupon to order your tickets.

Solar Eclipse
July 11



An example of how to safely view the Solar Eclipse by using a Pinhole Projector. Adult supervision is recommended.

On July 11th, the moon will pass between the Sun and the Earth causing a solar eclipse. A partial solar eclipse will be visible to Northern California residents from 10:11 am until 12:34 pm. The maximum eclipse will occur at 11:20 am when 63% of the Sun's diameter will be obscured, and the Sun will look like a crescent. The Academy will conduct a safe viewing of the eclipse near the main entrance of the Academy, using telescopes to project large, bright images of the Sun onto screens.

Many people mistakenly assume that they can watch the eclipse with their naked eyes. It is never safe to look directly at the Sun, as even partially obscured rays can painlessly burn the retinas of the eyes. These burns, known as retinopathy or retinal scarring, can result in severe and permanent loss of vision. This scarring is non-treatable and irreversible.

If people wish to view the solar eclipse, but cannot come to the safe viewing at the Academy, they can make a safe eclipse projector. One method is to poke a round hole through a piece of cardboard and let sunlight shine through it onto a white surface. The image will be small and faint, but perfectly safe for viewing. **DO NOT LOOK THROUGH THE PINHOLE AT THE SUN!** Anyone wishing a free brochure entitled “How to View the Solar Eclipse Safely,” may call the Morrison Planetarium at 750-7127.

**Academy Wins
AAM Award**



The Academy is proud to have been the recent recipient of an Award of Distinction (First Place) in the American Association of Museums Publication Competition. The invitation to the annual Donor Appreciation Dinner won first prize in the Invitations to Events category. Overall, there were 1,639 entries and 35 were selected for Awards of Distinction. This invitation was designed for the Academy by Kiku Obata & Company of San Francisco.

**Morrison
Planetarium
Sky Show**



The Sky Show for the summer is *Death Stars and Dragon Tales*, an updated look at various theories explaining the extinction of the dinosaurs. What caused their extinction after 130 million years? Did a killer comet cause major climactic change? This show was produced in consultation with scientists at the leading edge of the investigations into these questions. Shows are daily at 2 pm with extra performances at 1, 3 & 4 on weekends. “Startalk,” a relaxing tour of the night skies over San Francisco and a look at upcoming astronomical events, continues each weekend at noon. Call 750-7141 for more information.

**Guenoc Winery
Supports the
Academy**

You might see the Academy's name in an unusual place in the next few months. Guenoc Winery has just kicked off a very generous program where \$1 of each bottle of their Chenin Blanc sold will be donated to the Academy. Look for the colorful display at your local stores or in participating restaurants offering a wine-by-the-glass promotion. The wine itself is an award-winner having recently won two awards at the American Wine Competition. It won a Gold Medal as the best tasting Chenin Blanc in America and also won the Best of Class for being the best priced Chenin Blanc at \$5.99 a bottle. The Academy is very grateful to Orville and Karen Magoon of Guenoc Winery for their generous support of the Academy. This program is just one of many ways in which the Magoons have supported the efforts of scientists and laypeople trying to save the natural world.

**CALIFORNIA
ACADEMY
OF SCIENCES**



BUY THIS WINE AND HELP
details on back

Ticket Order Form

___ September 5 “Galen Rowell and My Tibet,” 7:30 pm
___ September 19 “Dr. Jansen and Costa Rica,” 7:30 pm
___ September 26 “Arlene Blum and the Himalayas,” 7:30 pm

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Daytime phone _____

Lecture:
___ \$5 member tickets

Please send your check payable to the California Academy of Sciences and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:
The Special Programs Office
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118

___ \$7 non-member tickets

★★ Tickets will not be processed without separate checks for each lecture. ★★

*Time Dated Material
Please Expedite*

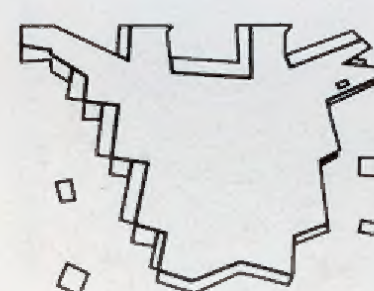
July-August, 1991

Open Daily 10 AM to 7 PM

(415)221-5100

*San Francisco, California 94118-4599
Golden Gate Park*

*DinoFest '91
California Academy of Sciences*



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Calendar of Events

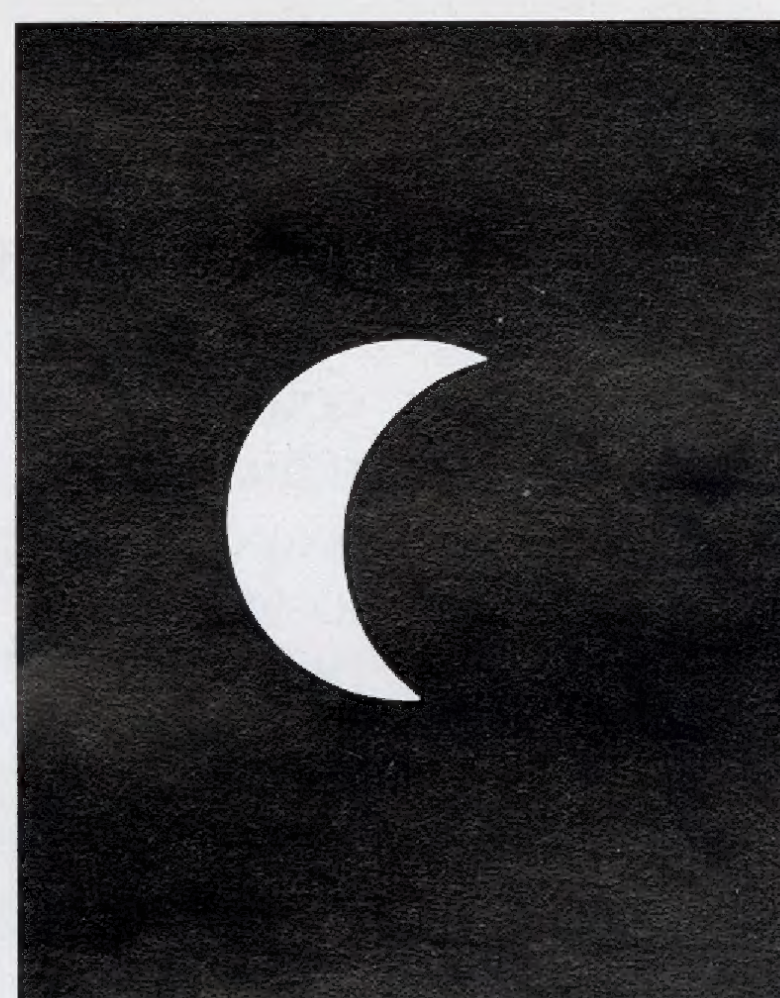
July

- 3 Free First Wednesday, until 8 pm
- 4 Extended summer hours begin
- 6 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 10 Members' Meetings, 2 & 7:30 pm
- 11 Members' Meeting, 7:30 pm
- 13 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 16-21 Artist in Residence, daily 10-4:30 pm
- 16 Lecture, "Antarctica," 7:30 pm
- 18 Lecture, "Hummingbirds," 7:30 pm
- 20 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 21 Guest Lecturer at Pacific Grove, Susan Middleton
and "Sliding Toward Extinction," 2:30 pm
- 27 Traditional Arts, 1 pm

August

- 7 Free First Wednesday, until 8 pm
- 10 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 24 Traditional Arts, 1 pm
- 28 Members' Meetings, 2 & 7:30 pm
- 29 Members' Meeting, 7:30 pm
- 31 Traditional Arts, 1 pm

The Academy Store



Just in time for the solar eclipse in July, the Store is featuring two newly-released books which can help you more fully understand this phenomena:

Totality: Eclipses of the Sun by Mark Littmann and Ken Willcox.

The Understanding of Eclipses by Guy Ottewell.

September

- 5 Lecture, "Galen Rowell & My Tibet," 7:30 pm
- 19 Lecture, "Dr. Jansen and Costa Rica," 7:30 pm
- 26 Lecture, "Arlene Blum and the Himalayas,"
7:30 pm